

not stop what would become a long list of great achievements.

When he returned from Vietnam, Mr. Manning was elected Recorder in Gibson County, Tennessee, and later, Governor Ned McWherter appointed him state Commissioner of Veterans' Affairs. During that time, Mr. Manning played an important role in the construction of three retirement homes for veterans and three cemeteries for veterans in Tennessee. The West Tennessee Veterans Cemetery and the state veterans home in Humboldt are named in his honor.

In 1999, Mr. Manning was first elected mayor of Bradford, Tennessee, and has been credited with reinvigorating community spirit in that town. He was elected to his second term in that position in May 2001.

I am honored to have worked alongside Bill Manning, who is truly an American hero. His spirit and determination allowed him to overcome his physical obstacles and become a leader whose good work still benefits the people of Bradford, Gibson County and the state of Tennessee. We have lost an amazing man, a courageous leader and a dear friend. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and our colleagues join me today in recognizing my friend, Mr. Bill Manning.

#### PAYING TRIBUTE TO DON CHAPMAN

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*November 27, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Don Chapman and thank him for his contributions to the community of Paonia, Colorado. Don will always be remembered as a dedicated leader of the community. As he celebrates his retirement, it is a great loss for a town that has relied on Don for his knowledge and wisdom in times of hardship and prosperity.

Don has served the community of Paonia for over forty years. As a member of the business community he and his family owned and operated a service station, garage and machine shop in the area since 1956. Answering a call to public service in 1973, Don entered the field of politics. He was elected that year to the Town Council as a Trustee, a position he held for the next 10 years. This position propelled Don to the Mayor's office a year later. In 1995, following an eleven-year retirement, Don returned to service and was elected to the Town Council once again.

While serving Paonia, Don has been involved in several organizations that have been instrumental in improving the lives of those who reside in Paonia. He has served on the Fire District Board and the Delta County Hospital Board where he served as President. He has held leadership positions in Masonic Lodge 121, helped bring television to the area, as well as promote Paonia fundraisers, events, and services.

Mr. Speaker, it is a great honor to recognize Don Chapman and his contributions to the community of Paonia as he celebrates his retirement from public service. I would like to

thank him for his years of dedication and hard work. His time and dedication are well served. I wish Don the best of luck in his future endeavors and hope he enjoys his well-deserved retirement.

#### MOVING TOWARDS A CLEAN DIAMOND TRADE

#### HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 27, 2001*

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representatives HALL, WOLF and HOUGHTON for putting together this compromise bill with the Administration. It is important that we enact legislation to reform the conflict-driving diamond trade, and this is an important first step.

Mr. Speaker, for years terrorist bands masquerading as political rebels have been using income from the illicit trade in diamonds to fund their attacks on civilian populations. The scars that they have left are deep. They are seen every where on the mangled limbs and faces of men, women and children on the streets of Monrovia and Freetown.

As appalling as the profiteering of these groups, is the commercial support that they have received from brokers in the legitimate diamond trade in what we refer to as the developed world. While some of these traders have dealt unknowingly in these blood diamonds, others have consciously taken advantage of their market position to "launder" these tainted goods. There is a clear need to establish a system which punishes those that are supporting terrorist bands that profit from diamond trading, and prevent dirty diamonds from entering the market which make legitimate dealers unwittingly complicit.

The substitute for H.R. 2722 that we have before us is not perfect, but it is an important first step in creating such a system. Moreover, passing this bill will send a clear signal to those states, industries and NGOs participating in the Kimberly Process, that the United States is serious about Clean Diamonds. I am confident that this bill will help move the Kimberly agenda forward, and that concrete steps to implement a verification system will be agreed to by all participating parties. This, after all, is the key. A verification system will not work unless it has the support of all those concerned.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill and to continue to work towards making the diamond industry one that supports trade and economic development without compromising human rights.

H.R. 3206, THE "HOME OWNERSHIP EXPANSION AND OPPORTUNITIES ACT"

#### HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 27, 2001*

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, I come to the floor today to make a brief state-

ment about my cosponsorship of H.R. 3206, the "Home Ownership Expansion and Opportunities Act."

By cosponsoring this legislation, I am expressing my support for new ideas to provide additional opportunities for homeownership. This legislation is intended to bring more competition into the secondary mortgage marketplace, the result of which will be more opportunities and lower costs for homebuyers.

The "Home Ownership Expansion and Opportunities Act" would allow the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA) to guarantee the securities of conventional mortgages above the 85 percent loan to value ratio, up to the statutory conventional mortgage limit. In case of default, the participating private mortgage insurance companies (PMIs) would bear the first level of loss.

Of course, our current mortgage financing system works well. After all, homeownership in the United States is at an all time high. Any system can be improved, however, so long as no industry or company is ceded any structural competitive advantage.

Like any legislation, this proposal takes calculated risks to achieve demonstrable gains. First, the federal government will guarantee these mortgages. I see no reason, therefore, why we wouldn't see to it that certain affordable housing goals are met and enforced. In doing so we will ensure that all Americans have access to affordable financing so they can realize their dream of home ownership.

Additionally, because the federal government will be taking on some of the risk associated with these mortgages, we must ensure that the program is managed in the most fiscally prudent manner. That is why the legislation includes a provision that any PMI participant receive an AA rating or better from a nationally recognized rating agency, and must meet additional requirements as determined by the Government National Mortgage Association (GNMA). While the PMIs are regulated at the state level, we may want to consider additional safety and soundness mechanisms, to further minimize the risk to taxpayers.

I look forward to working with my colleagues as this proposal moves through the legislative process. This bill serves as a starting point to begin the debate on how best to accomplish our goal of increasing homeownership for all Americans.

#### GUILLERMO A. GOMEZ: TEACHER OF EXCELLENCE

#### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 27, 2001*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, and colleagues, I rise today to recognize and honor Guillermo A. Gomez, a sixth-grade bilingual teacher at Vista Square Elementary School in Chula Vista, California.

Mr. Gomez was nominated by the California Teachers Association (CTA) for the prestigious National Education Association Foundation Award for Teaching Excellence. He was the only California teacher, chosen from a pool of more than 300,000 educators, to represent our

state of California. Although he was not the final winner, his nomination is a glowing tribute to his service to our children.

CTA President Wayne Johnson's nomination letter includes the following information about Mr. Gomez and his achievements: "CTA conducted a search for nominees for this prestigious award. Many excellent California teachers were nominated, but Mr. Gomez stood head and shoulders above the rest. Not only is he an excellent teacher, but he is also an inspiring one. He created an after-school program called Circle of Little Brothers and Circle of Little Sisters, where he helps upper-elementary students explore possibilities for their futures. He coordinates an after-school homework center and takes the lead in training staff on English language development standards.

Becoming concerned that there were few males, especially of Latino descent, who were involved in a school with many Latino children, Mr. Gomez, along with another teacher, created a group called "Mi Papa" in the community resource center. This program helps bring fathers into the school community as role models and pairs them with children in educational and art activities.

Despite the fact that he has been a teacher for only six years, Mr. Gomez is active in his local CTA chapter, Chula Vista Educators. He serves on many communities and, as an association representative, he kept teachers in his school informed and focused during recent negotiations with the school district. He is also the chair of the political action committee for his local association. In short, CTA believes that Mr. Gomez exemplifies all the qualities that are present in the best teachers: dedication, caring, innovation and creativity, and teaching excellence."

Both Marilyn Prall, Principal, and Martha Deichler, Associate Principal of his school, who was Mr. Gomez' mentor, attest to his efforts to grow professionally and to become the best teacher possible—asking for advice, taking suggestions, and making them work in his own classroom. They believe that his passion for teaching has enabled him to become the excellent teacher he is today.

Mr. Gomez also works outside the classroom walls with the families of his students. He believes that only as an active social agent in the community can a teacher provide opportunities for students to advance in this competitive society. He participates in literacy nights, harvest carnivals, job-a-thons, and fundraising activities, such as car washes and haunted houses, to make sure that all of his students can go to sixth grade camp. In his "spare time", he also coaches soccer!

Mr. Gomez' public service goes beyond his local community. He and his students are often involved in charitable activities to help victims of natural disasters thousands of miles away. He is compassionate and appreciative of all people and cultures. His students know that he cares deeply about them and their families, and they return year after year to visit Mr. Gomez after their elementary school graduation.

Mr. Gomez is a graduate of San Diego State University (SDSU) and holds a Bilingual Cross-Cultural Language Academic Development multiple subject credential. He will receive his Master's Degree in Latin American

studies from SDSU this coming summer. In addition, he regularly attends Saturday workshops, after-school in servicing training, and district workshops. He reads professionally and implements in his classroom the methods and ideas supported by current research.

Mr. Gomez knows the abilities of each and every one of his students and works to help each child achieve his or her full potential. He is proud to be a teacher, and I am proud that he is a teacher in my Congressional District. He will be honored by the National Education Association Foundation for the Improvement of Education in Washington, DC on December 6, 2001.

A sincere thank you, Mr. Gomez, for your dedication to our young people, the future of our nation.

#### HONORING FRANCIS M. BAIN

#### HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 27, 2001*

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to remember and honor the life of one of America's true leaders. Not only was he a patriotic soldier during World War II, but he was also a civic leader in his community. Francis M. Bain passed away at the age of ninety-two on November 1, 2001, and it is with a solemn heart that I would like to pay tribute to his life and memory.

Francis Bain was born in Springfield, Illinois on November 7, 1908. He spent the majority of his childhood growing up in Tungsten, Colorado, outside of Boulder, where he completed his high school education and graduated from the University of Colorado in 1931. He went to Europe during World War II, where he served for four years as a Lieutenant Colonel in the 65th Infantry Division of the United States Army fighting to defend the freedom we hold so dear in the United States.

Mr. Bain's role switched from a military soldier to civic leader when he returned home from Europe to Colorado. He joined his brother to manage the family business, Campbell-Sell Baking Company. Throughout the years he undertook several civic responsibilities including such posts as a member of the Denver Board of Education for 16 years, president of the Metropolitan Council for Community Service, and Trustee of the Temple Buell College and Iliff School of Theology among others.

Mr. Speaker, Francis Bain contributed so much to our nation and gave selflessly of himself to the community. He was a leader and role model for the people of our country both at home and abroad. He has touched so many lives and his contributions will not be forgotten. I would like to express my condolences to his family and friends during their time of mourning.

#### TIME IS RUNNING OUT

#### HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 27, 2001*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, at an historic inter-Korea summit in June of 2000, the leaders of the two Koreas pledged to work toward reconciliation and reunification of the divided peninsula. A key component of healing the 50-year old wounds is for the Korean governments to work quickly to reunite families that were torn apart during the violence and chaos of the Korean War.

Families on the Korean peninsula, as well as many Korean Americans in my district and across the United States, have not given up hope that one day they will be reunited with their long lost relatives. I applaud Congressman BECERRA for introducing House Concurrent Resolution 77 and thank Chairman HYDE and Congressman LANTOS for bringing it to the floor tonight. It is my hope that this resolution will reinforce the United States commitment to a united and peaceful Korea. I urge all members to vote in support of this important measure.

#### TRIBUTE TO JOHN D. GROENDYKE

#### HON. STEVE LARGENT

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 27, 2001*

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to John D. Groendyke on the 25th anniversary of his appointment to the Oklahoma Wildlife Commission by then Governor David Boren.

Let me tell you a little about this man. John Groendyke graduated from Wentworth Military Academy where as Cadet Lt. Col., he served as the first brigade commander when the corps was organized as a "battle group" with seven subordinate companies. He now serves as President of the Wentworth Board of Trustees. John went on to receive his Bachelor of Science in Business from Oklahoma State University and his law degree from the University of Oklahoma. He served as a Captain in the U.S. Army, and after a two-year tour of duty he returned to Enid, Oklahoma to join the family trucking operation. He is a lifelong resident of Oklahoma whose vocation is serving as owner, Chairman and CEO of Groendyke Transport Company, founded by his father, Harold C. Groendyke in 1932 and today, one of the nation's largest motor carriers of bulk commodities serving the continental United States, Canada and Mexico. He and his wife, Virginia have two daughters, two sons, and four grandsons and live in Enid, Oklahoma where they are actively involved in many community activities. He serves as Chairman of the Board of the National Tank Truck Carriers and is a member of the Board of Directors of Central National Bank in Enid. He is a Trustee of the Oklahoma chapter of the Nature Conservancy, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Grand National Quail Foundation and Grand National Quail Club, having